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PRUNUS ROOTSTOCK NAMED 'GI 2091'

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION

Interspecific *Prunus hybrid*

VARIETAL DENOMINATION

'GI 2091'

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of Interspecific *Prunus hybrid* used as a rootstock known by the varietal name 'GI 2091'. The new variety was discovered in Giessen, Germany in 1969. The new variety is the result of a planned breeding program between *Prunus cerasus* 'Shattenmorelle' (unpatented female parent) and a *Prunus canescens* (male parent). The new variety differs from its parents in that it is a triploid genome. The purpose of the breeding program was to produce a series of dwarfing, precocious, productive rootstocks for sweet cherries. The new variety has been trial and field tested and has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics and remain true to type through successive propagations.

'GI 2091' IN COMPARISON TO CHERRY ROOTSTOCK 'GI 148/1' (PP8,954) AND CHERRY ROOTSTOCK 'GI 148/2' (PP9,622)

- Leaf color: During main growth period, leaves of 'GI 2091' are somewhat brighter in colors than 148/1 and 148/2 (in autumn, there is no difference in color).
- Habitus: In contrast to 148/1 and 148/2, which grow more upright, the habitus of 'GI 2091' is more weeping and it has more lateral branches.
- Rooting system: 'GI 2091' has a finer root system and has fewer stronger roots than 148/1 and 148/2.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying photographic drawing illustrates the new cultivar, with the color being as nearly true as is possible with color illustrations of this type. The word GIESSEN in Fig. 1 is the location of discovery.

Fig. 1 illustrates two entire plants of the new variety; and

Fig. 2 is a close-up of the leaves and branches of the new variety.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following detailed description sets forth the characteristics of the new cultivar. The data which defines these characteristics were collected by asexual reproductions carried by green cuttings under mist and in vitro conditions. The first and